

Serving Real-Time and Historical Water Data to the Public

The USGS National Water Information System: Design, Quality Assurance, and Uses

Montana Hydrology Conference Helena Montana, July 27, 2010 Dave Briar



Topics:

- NWIS / NWISWeb systems design
 - Philosophy and architecture
- Quality assurance
 - Both data quality and system availability
- Public and internal uses
 - Nontraditional and automated access





NWIS / NWISWeb System Design:

- NWIS uses a data model optimized for acquisition, processing, and archiving of data
- NWISWeb aggregates the data and uses a data model optimized for efficient retrieval
- NWISWeb national architecture reflects history and USGS culture of local ownership / control





NWIS / NWISWeb System Design:

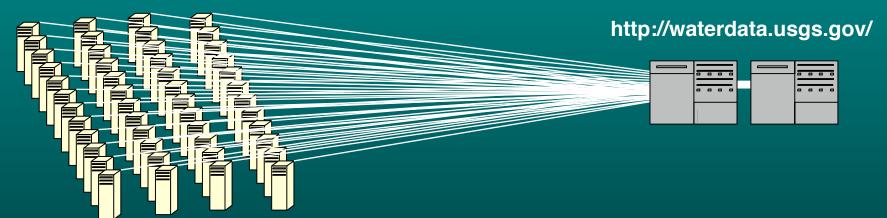
- NWIS uses a data model optimized for acquisition, processing, and archiving of data
- NWISWeb aggregates the data and uses a data model optimized for efficient retrieval
- NWISWeb national architecture reflects history and USGS culture of local ownership / control



Secure Repository -



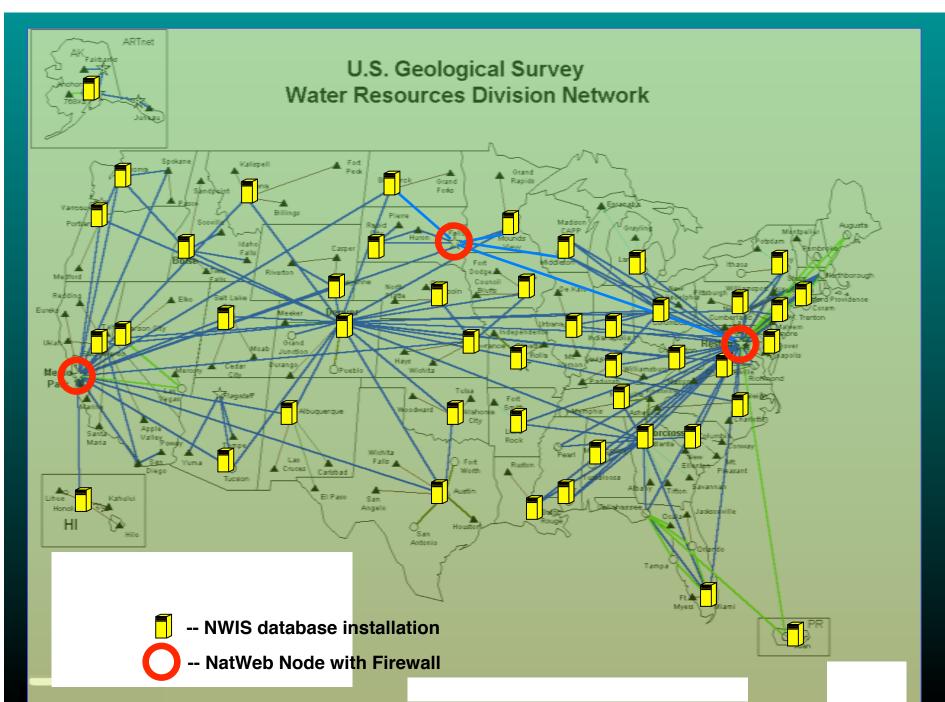
45 NWIS hosts

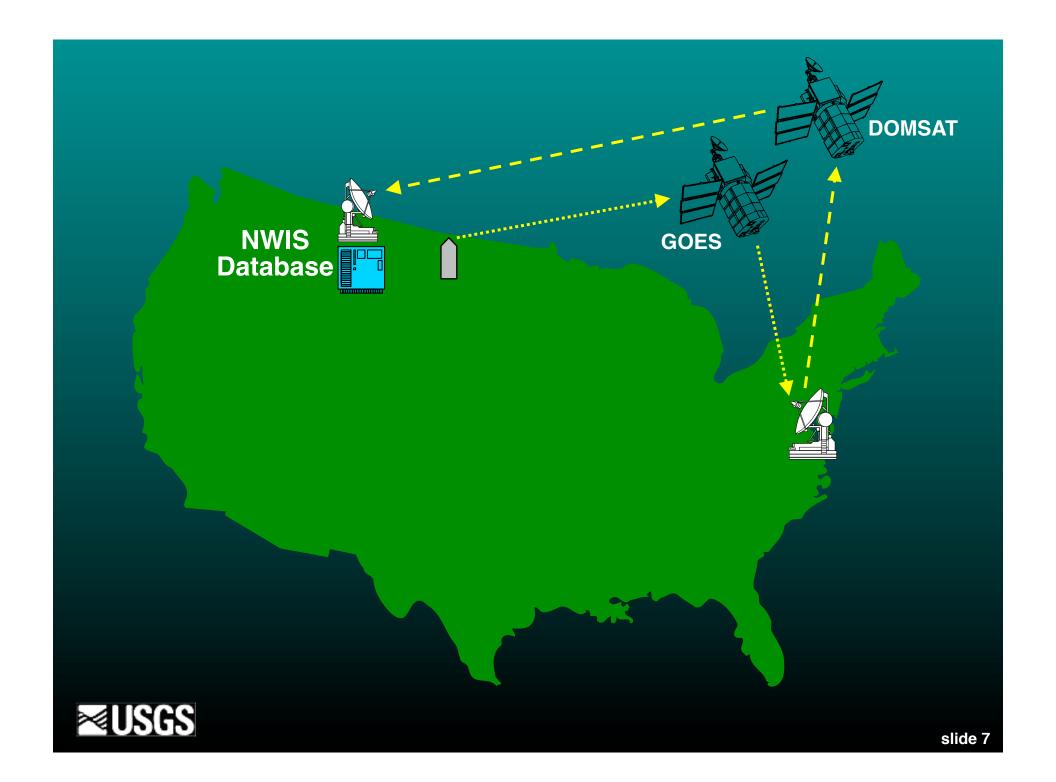


National Aggregate Dataset

1,541,987
12,320
324,567,200
8,437,274
4,836,150
88,893,776
699,583

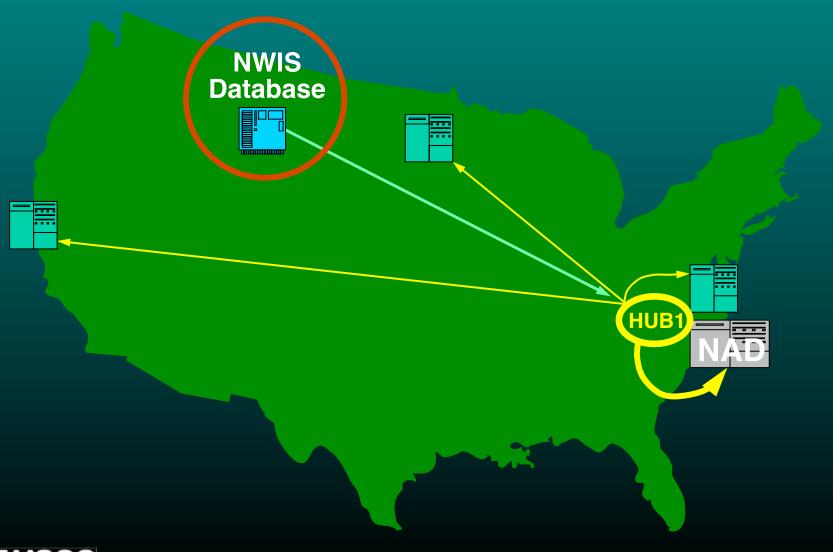




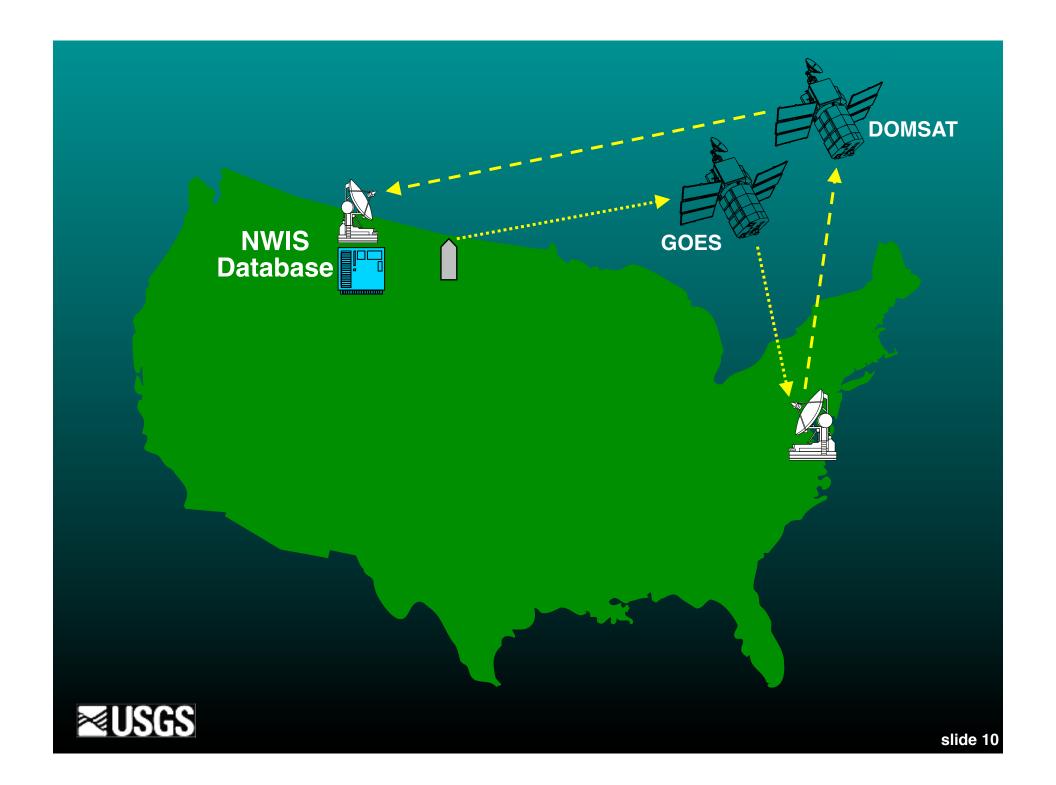


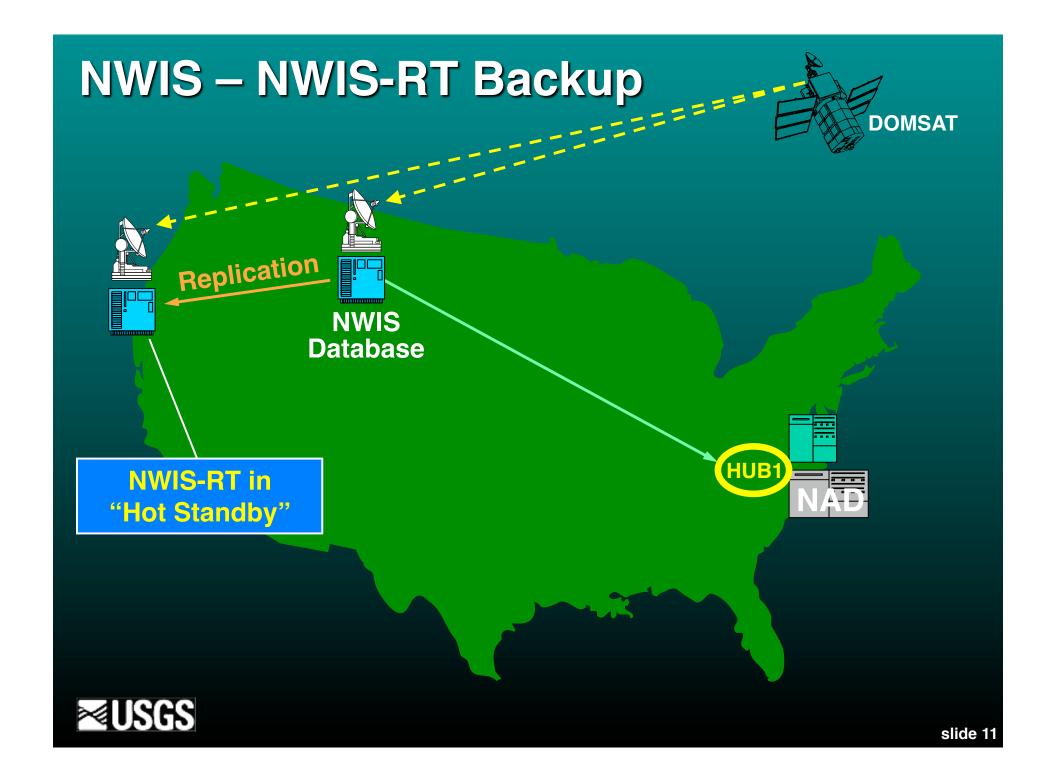
NWISWeb Data Transfer NWIS Database Sioux Falls SD Reston VA TS data TS data Menlo Park CA HUB₁ All data ≥USGS

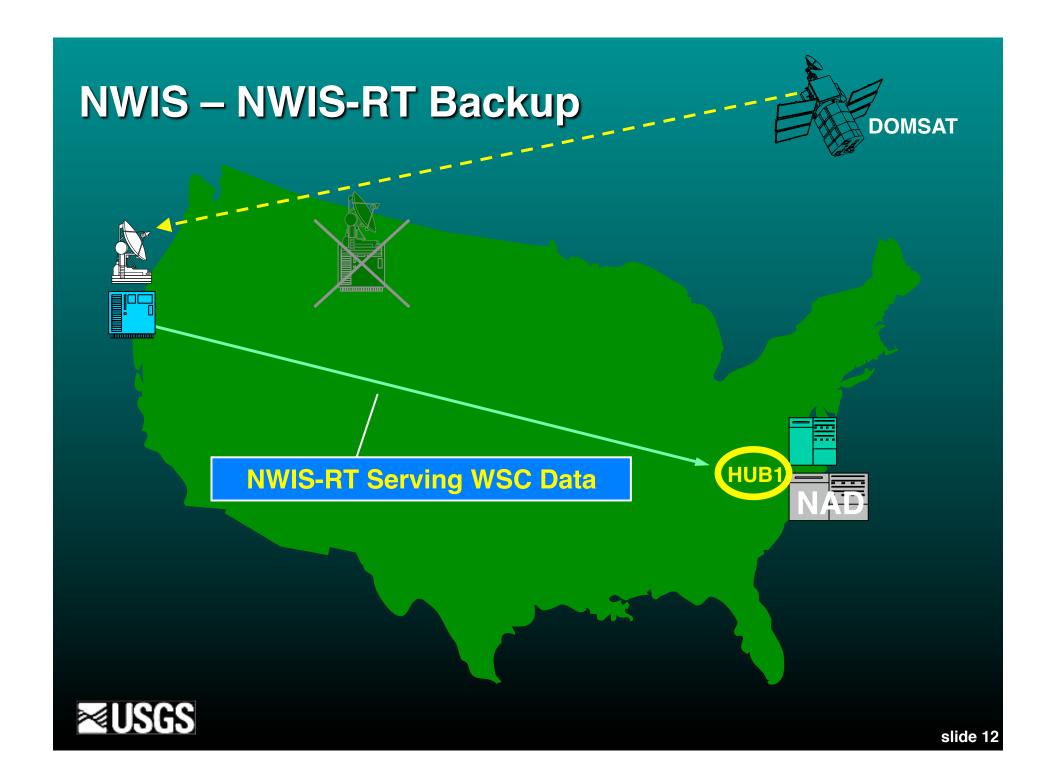
NWIS Database is single point of failure



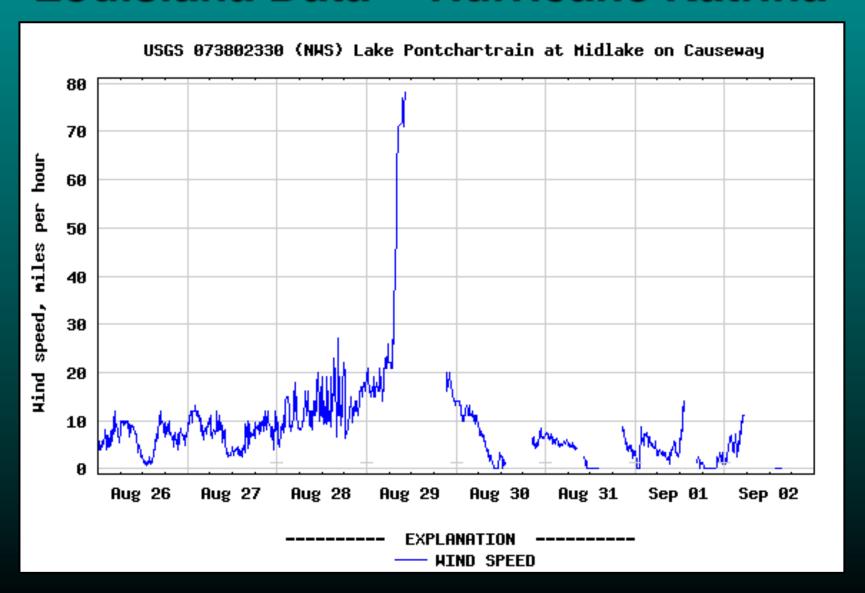






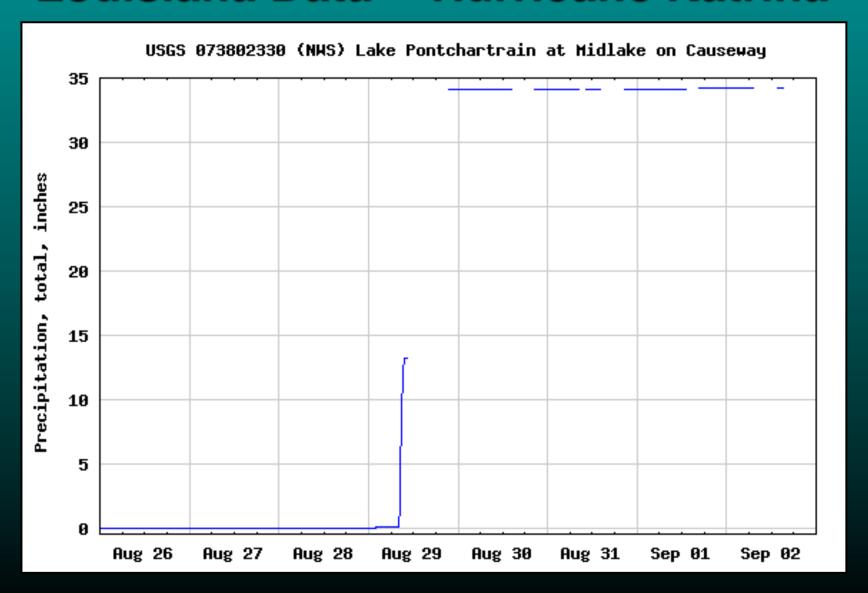


Louisiana Data -- Hurricane Katrina



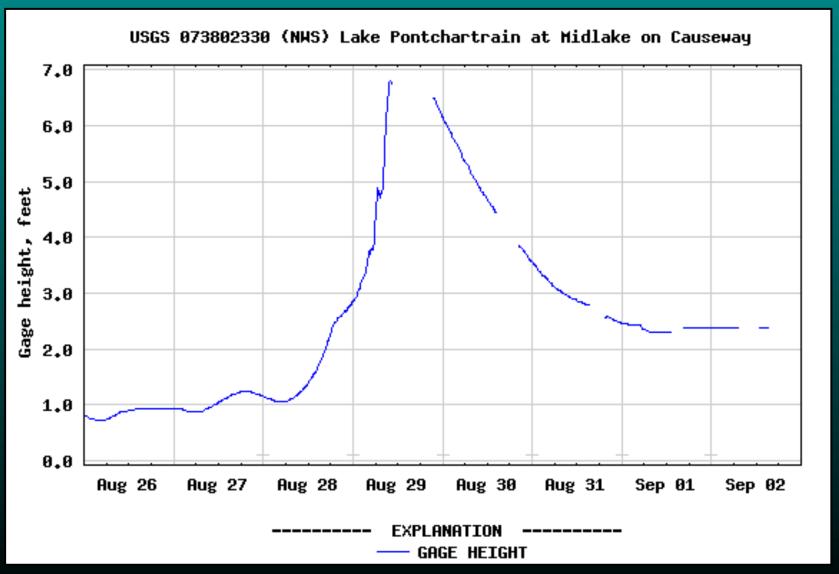


Louisiana Data -- Hurricane Katrina



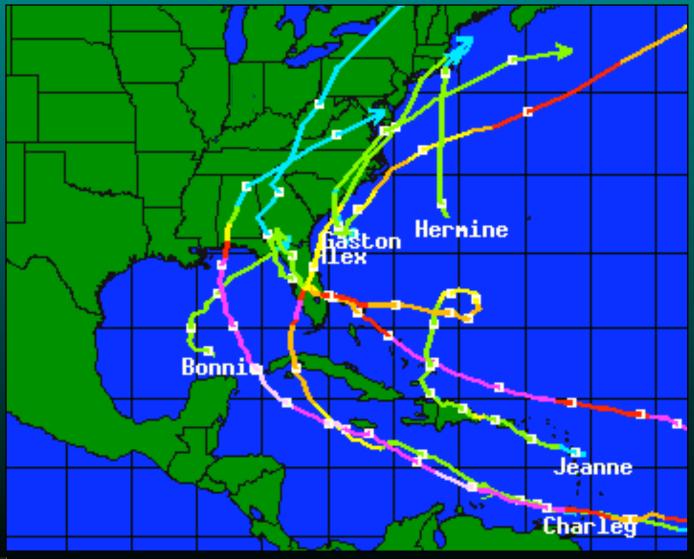


Louisiana Data -- Hurricane Katrina





2004 Tropical Storm Tracks







Topics:

- NWIS / NWISWeb systems design
 - Philosophy and architecture
- Quality assurance
 - Both system availability and data
- Public and internal uses
 - Nontraditional and automated access



Quality Assurance of system availability:

- Basic architecture
 - 3 geographically distributed independent nodes
 - NWIS-RT backup processing
- "Level 3" routing of waterdata.usgs.gov
 - Wellness checking
 - Load balancing
- "BigBrother" system monitoring
- "Keynote" monitoring of performance
 - Provides a measure of public accessibility

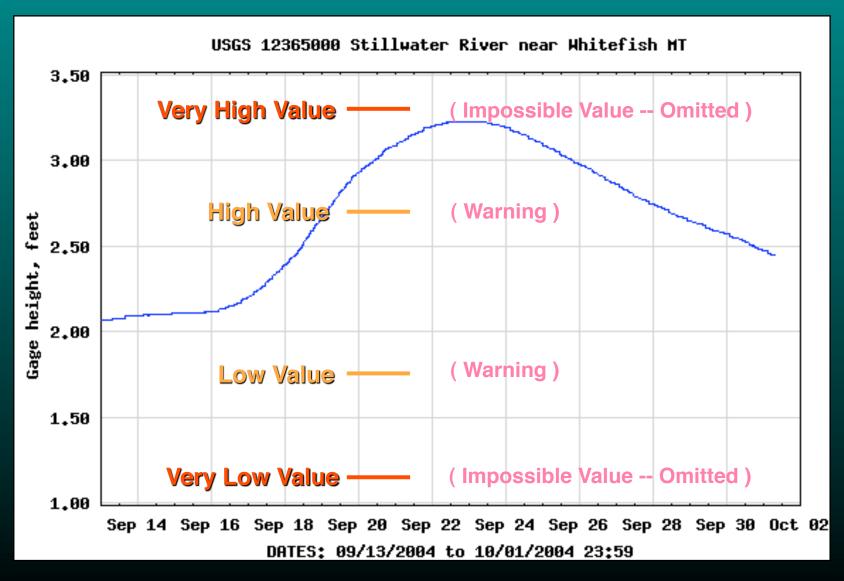


Quality Assurance of Data:

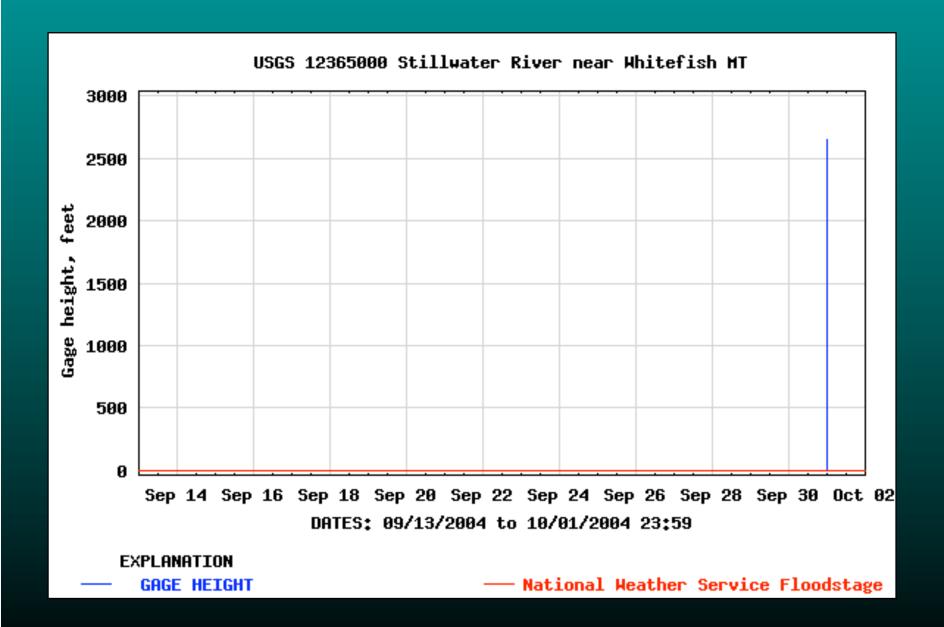
- Automated Filtering
 - Threshold filters applied during NWIS processing
 - Erroneous values omitted from public display and questionable values flagged for reviewer



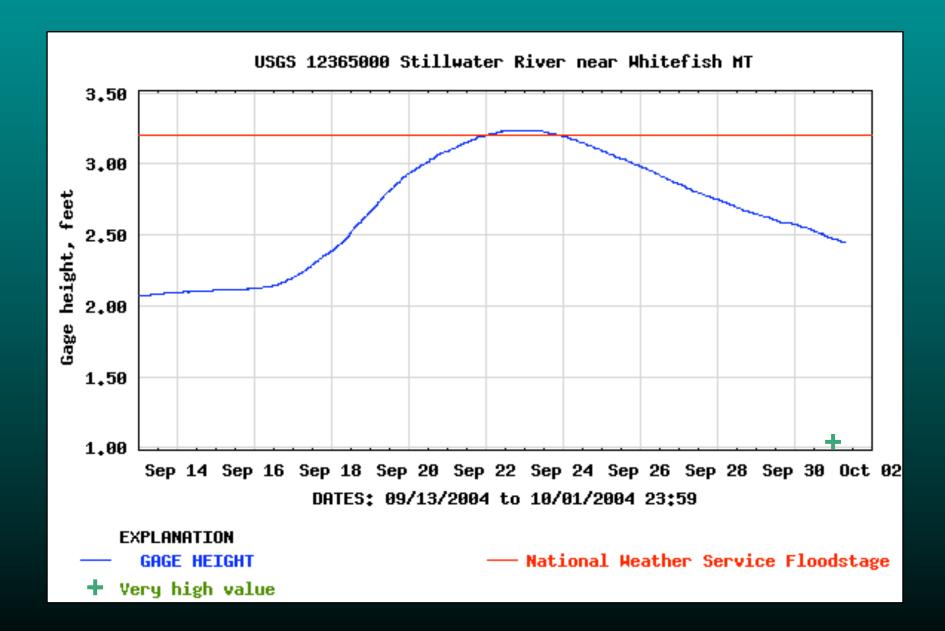
Threshold Filters





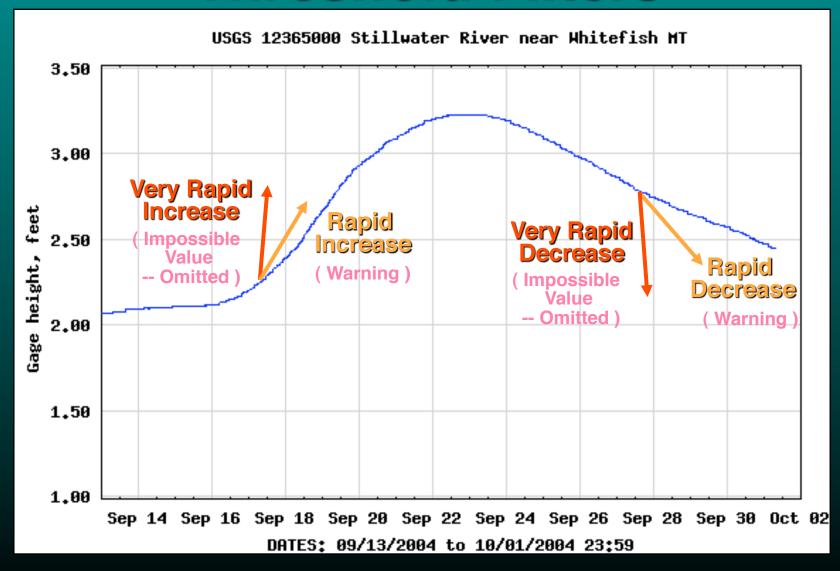








Threshold Filters





Quality Assurance of Data:

- Automated Filtering
 - Threshold filters applied during NWIS processing
 - Erroneous values omitted from public display and questionable values flagged for reviewer
- Periodic visual inspection
 - Reviewer created lists of selected sites
 - Internal-only reference levels provide additional context for QA process
 - Masking of questionable / bad data

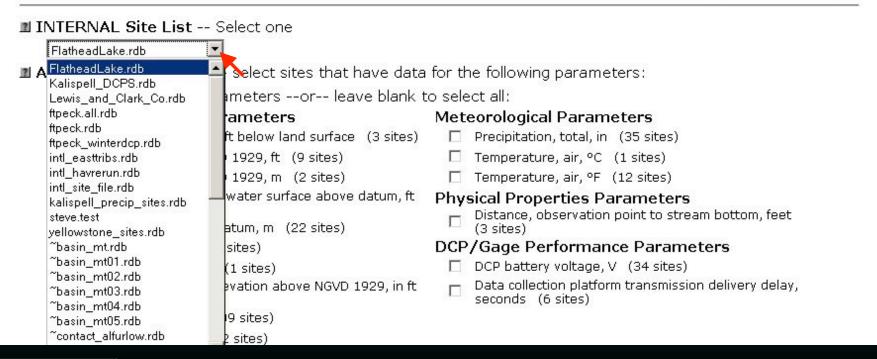




USGS Real-Time Water Data for Montana: Build Sequence

Select sites which meet all of the following criteria:

Define one or more values for each of the following site-selection criteria: --- or select new criteria



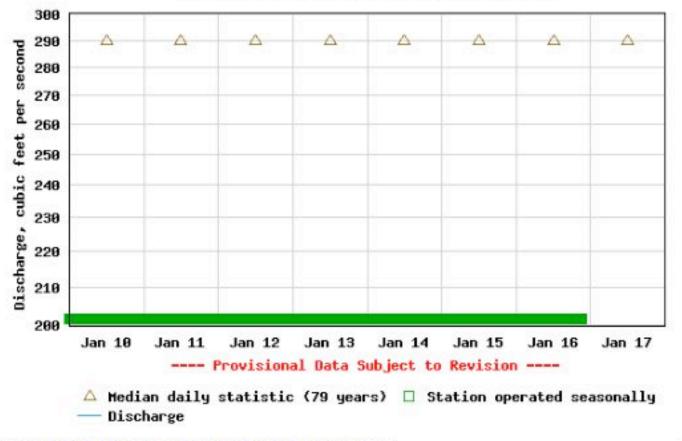


USGS 06016000 Beaverhead River at Barretts MT

Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: <u>Ssn</u> 01-16-2010 21:15 MST <u>Prev</u> <u>Next</u>





Create presentation-quality / stand-alone graph

parm 00060 DD02

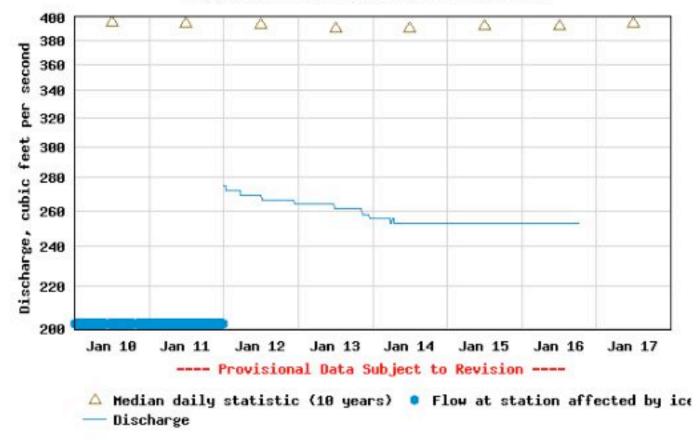


USGS 06017000 Beaverhead River at Dillon MT

Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: 253 01-16-2010 18:15 MST Prev Next





Create presentation-quality / stand-alone graph

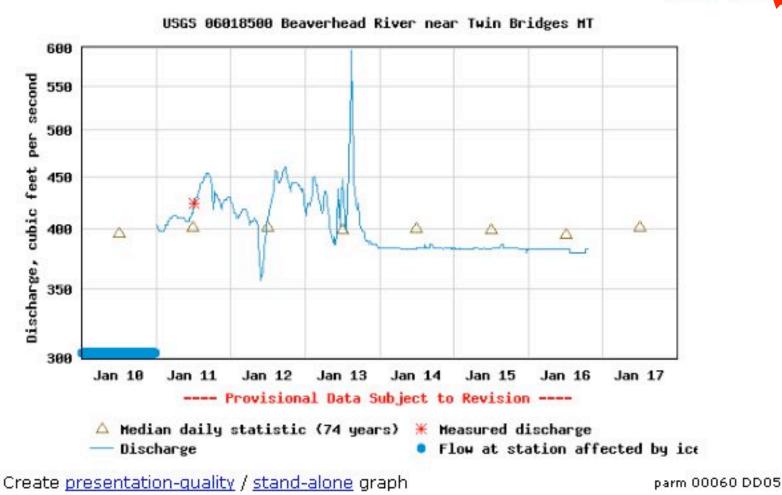
parm 00060 DD01



USGS 06018500 Beaverhead River near Twin Bridges MT

Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: 382 01-16-2010 19:00 MST Prev Nex

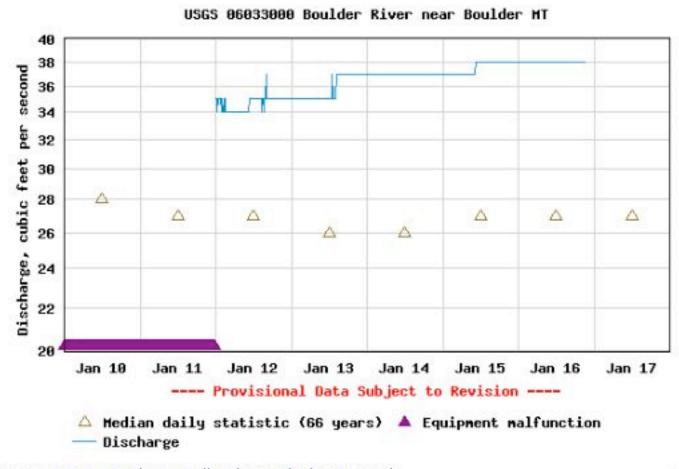




USGS 06033000 Boulder River near Boulder MT

Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: 38 01-16-2010 21:15 MST Prev Next,

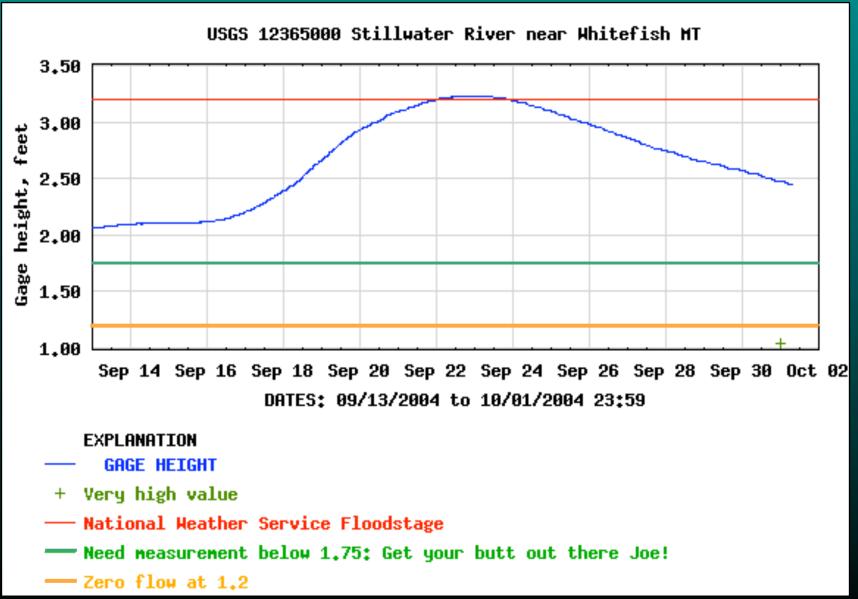


Create presentation-quality / stand-alone graph

parm 00060 DD01



Internal / Public Reference Levels





Quality Assurance of Data:

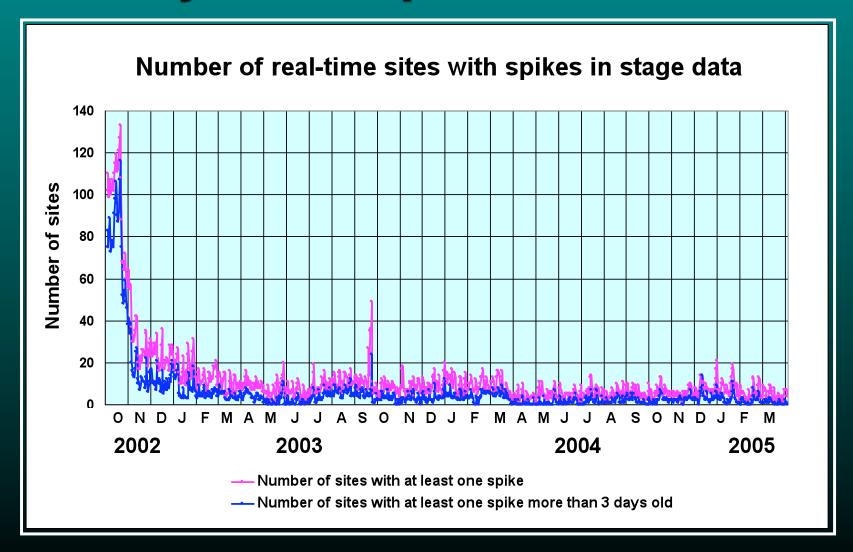
- Automated Filtering
 - Threshold filters applied during NWIS processing
 - Erroneous values omitted from public display and questionable values flagged for reviewer
- Periodic visual inspection
 - Reviewer created lists of selected sites
 - Internal-only reference levels provide additional context for QA process
 - Masking of questionable / bad data
- Daily "QA report" from National system



```
<>
     NWISWeb Automated Quality Assurance Report -- 2010/01/04 06:00:00
Publicly viewable sites scanned
                                   Sites w/ error in previous 60 days
                                      Sites w/ error older than 3 days
 Parameter ------
 00065 -- Gage height
                            8,957 24 13
 72019 -- Depth to water below LSD
                              995 19 18
 72020 -- Elevation
                              410
                                     1
                           1,438 2 1
 00010 -- Water temperature
                                      0
 00076 -- Turbidity
                                  0
 61028 -- Turbidity, wu, fld
                               1 0
                                      \mathbf{0}
 00095 -- Specific conductance
                              757 1
                                      1
 00300 -- Dissolved oxygen
                              354
                                   0
 00400 -- pH
                              286
                                   1
______
== Parameter: 00065 -- Gage height
== 8,957 publicly viewable sites scanned -- 690.87 sec
     24 sites have at least one error in last 60 days
==
     13 sites have at least one error that is more than 3 days old
==
==
       Test values: Diff = 15
== Graphs of all 24 sites:
 http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?site no list=P00065 qa4pmcode=000654period=60
           STATE
                 NWIS host Number of sites with errors
==
             SC sun1dsccmb 3
                            * * *
             SD sv08dsdhrn 2 **
==
             TN sun1dtnnsh 2 **
--
             AL sun1dalmtq 2 **
==
             AZ sunOdaztcn 2 **
==
             IA srv1diaiwc 2 **
             FI.
                   flnwis1 2
                            **
             NV dsn2dnvcrs 2
==
```



Daily QA Report -- Results







Topics:

- NWIS / NWISWeb systems design
 - Philosophy and architecture
- Quality assurance
 - Both system availability and data
- Public and internal uses
 - Nontraditional and automated access



Testimonial:

"Memorial Weekend we took 40 Boy Scouts and adults in canoes on the Peace River in FL and your site was priceless. This past weekend, without USGS water level information and the ability to compare it to water levels from earlier years, years in which we had successful trips, we would not have gone. Our relying on USGS information is not an isolated occurrence as we monitor at least 4 rivers. This is simply the one time I felt guilty enough to stop and say thanks for the good work and the web site. Please keep it available."



Testimonial:

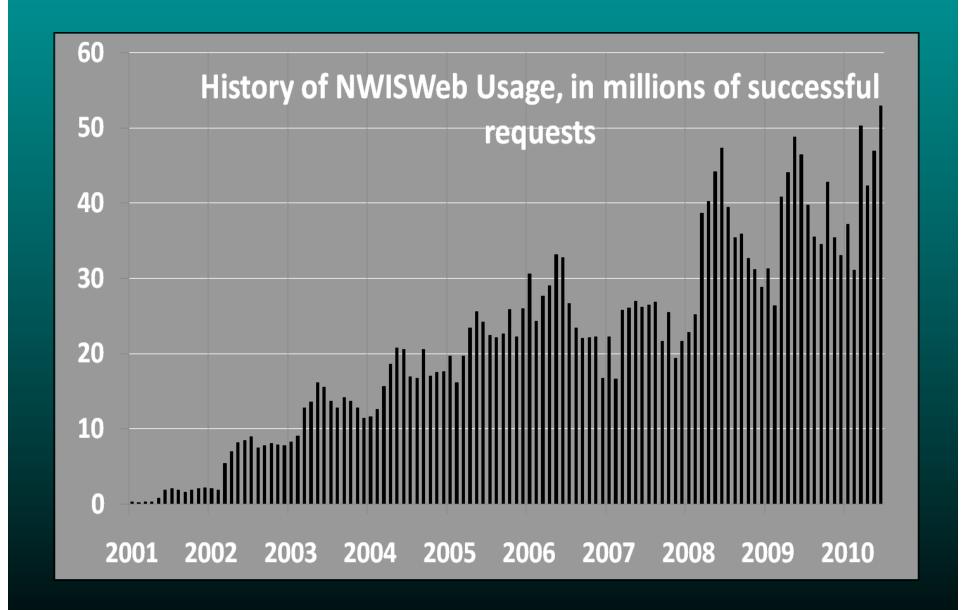
Principal of a School: "Our school floods quite frequently."
I have calibrated our response and reactions to this great data source. I deeply appreciate the availability, as do the 300+ families who benefit from the benefit our school gains from the data."



Testimonial:

"I live on lakefront property at Canyon Lake, Texas. Your website was like a bright light in a dark cave during the flood of 2002. You gave us the essential and critical information needed to make major decisions which would effect my family and home. Thank you for providing a portal to the big picture, enabling us to make timely decisions with up to date information. Making accurate decisions is difficult when threatened with flooding, but it would have been impossible without your website. Keep up the good work."







Public and Internal Uses

- NWISWeb uses http GET
 - 99.9+ % of pages are "bookmarkable"
 - All data are retrievable in tab-delimited (RDB) format
 - ~50% of total hits are from automated programs (not a user at a browser)



Public and Internal Uses

- NWISWeb uses http GET
 - 99.9+ % of pages are "bookmarkable"
 - All data are retrievable in tab-delimited (RDB) format
 - ~50% of total hits are from automated programs (not a user at a browser)



```
Automated retrieval report for 2010-01-11
     Scanning all active waterdata and 1 nwis.waterdata access logs combined
=== Scanning full page log entries only -- images and other entries processed later
Total pages served 561114 -- 11723 Mbytes (53418 hits with no size info)
Automated retrievals 280398 -- 5398 Mbytes
               50.0% -- 46.1%
----- Automated "pages" retrievals grouped by data type
Data type
             pages / %total Mbytes / %total
               224564 80.1 3591.6 66.5
UV data
UV/DV Summary table 23543 8.4 983.7 18.2
                8043 2.9 392.3 7.3
DV data
OLD:Expanded rating 3241 1.2
                            98.7 1.8
            2792
                      1.0
                         57.4 1.1
Site inventory
                      0.0
Get ratings
                              3.4 0.1
                          0.1 0.0
Site visit
                      0.0
Water-quality
                      0.0
                          0.0 0.0
Peak flow
                      0.0
                            0.0 0.0
                      0.0 0.0
GW levels
           Total 262269 93.6 5127.2 95.0
```

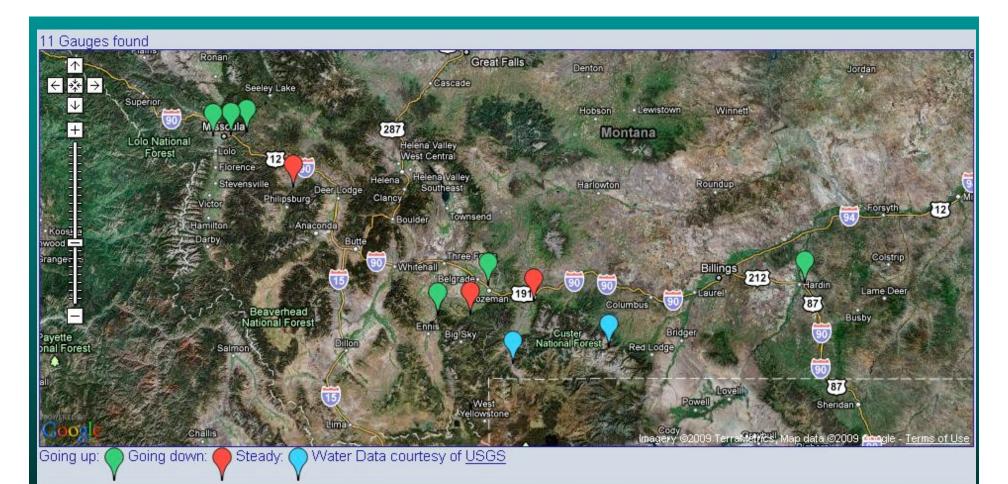


-- Automated "pages" retrievals grouped by requesting host Hits Mbytes Agent % Requesting host Start End 14198 171.2 "-" 92.5c.78ae.static.theplanet.com 10:39:06 - 22:24:48 13965 100.0 Wget 67.41.184.233 00:00:07 - 23:59:59 neptune.dl.stevens-tech.edu 10687 86.1 Java 00:00:09 - 23:46:53 10528 97.0 lwp-trivial 86% vpn.crh.noaa.gov 00:00:02 - 23:50:39 10269 19.5 "-" biggun.boatertalk.com 00:00:00 - 23:59:58 18.2 "-" 9353 npws01.deos.udel.edu 00:00:05 - 23:40:21 8768 56.7 Waet rvpmdesigns.com 00:01:58 - 23:32:05 16.9 Python-urllib 8202 69-162-212-82.static.acsalaska.net 00:00:02 - 23:59:10 8136 150.4 Wget hadslx2.nws.noaa.gov 00:00:01 - 23:17:26 85.6 Wget 7507 sun1dmeags.er.usgs.gov 00:05:00 - 23:56:01 6376 13.4 Lynx sun3dwatcm.wr.usgs.gov 00:03:02 - 23:30:01 5230 23.1 Wget static-host-209-33-202-132.mokisystems.com 00:00:06 - 23:50:36 4624 52.3 Java 131.191.149.78 00:05:51 - 23:55:48 4585 34.1 Java 94% cedant2.abac.com 00:00:43 - 23:59:44 4369 95.2 lwp-trivial dkslwq.cr.usqs.qov 00:00:02 - 23:03:52 4097 20.0 Java 156.110.99.73 00:02:00 - 23:52:39 3884 171.0 Python-urllib 77% vsas910.sas.usace.army.mil 00:01:40 - 23:58:20 3598 49.0 "-" 65-66-197-215.coral-energy.com 03:05:11 - 04:05:15 3517 33.4 Waet sundwimdn.er.usgs.gov 00:10:00 - 17:34:59 2994 123.2 "-" dnrdenww1.naturenet.state.co.us 00:08:14 - 23:58:59 2994 25.9 Java 156.110.99.74 00:05:19 - 23:51:04 2833 23.0 "-" w040.z064220040.nhv-ct.dsl.cnc.net 00:00:00 - 23:46:43 3.9 "-" 2778 76.12.191.140 00:07:57 - 23:59:44 2694 5.3 Lynx fs05svarmd.er.usqs.qov 00:00:00 - 23:45:20









Gauge being Tracked	Date/Time	Status	Flow (cfs)	Stage (ft)
Yellowstone River Near Livingston Mt	Jan 16, 21:45	Decreasing	1130	2.12
Yellowstone River At Corwin Springs Mt	Jan 16, 22:00	Steady	667	0.82
Boulder Creek At Maxville Mt	Jan 16, 22:00	Crashing	.50	1.68
Gallatin River Near Gallatin Gateway Mt	Jan 16, 21:45	Decreasing	289	1.28
East Gallatin R Bl Bridger C Nr Bozeman Mt	Jan 16, 22:30	Increasing	60	2.51
Madison River Bl Ennis Lake Nr Mcallister Mt	Jan 16, 22:45	Increasing	1760	2.86
West Rosebud Creek Near Roscoe Mt	Jan 16, 22:00	Steady	62	0.76
Little Bighorn River Near Hardin Mt	Jan 16, 22:00	Jumping	7-17	3.61
Clark Fork Above Missoula Mt	Jan 16, 22:00	Increasing	1310	2.69

Coords: 45.59715810,-110.56603940

Altitude: 4542.49 ft

Last Meaurement: Jan 16, 21:45

Flow: 1130 cfs Stage: 2.12 ft

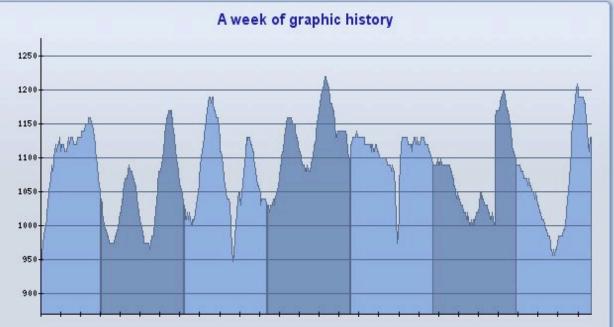
Flow Change: -4.88677% Stage Change: -2.64718%

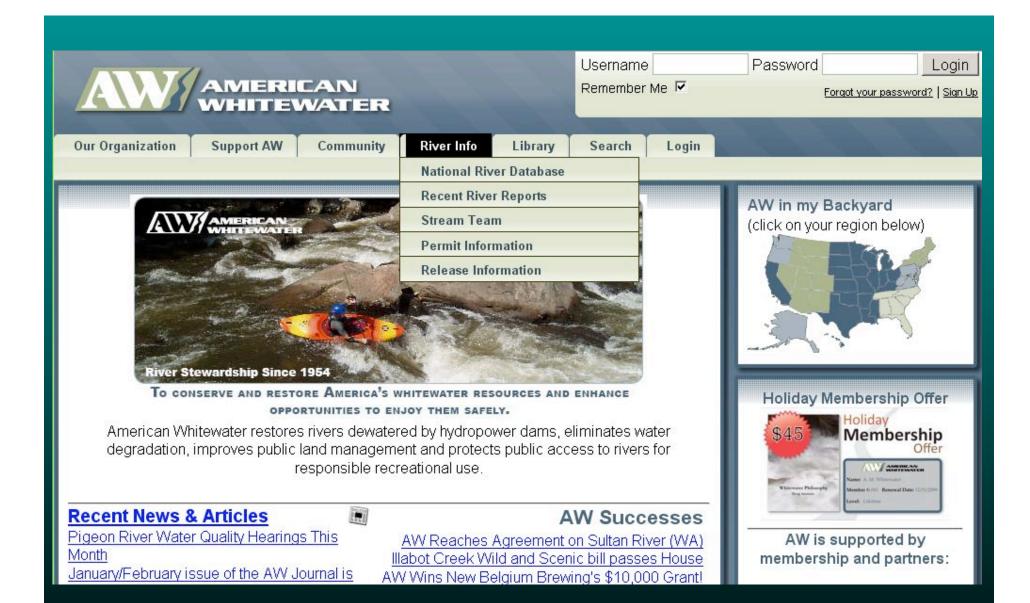


Community Average Level Cut-offs

Runable: 0 cfs Good Run: 16 cfs Dangerous Run: 30 cfs

Log-in to set your levels







Beaverhead River at Dillon MT [USA-MNT]

Edit Gauge

Current Conditions

Reading of "n/a" = frozen gauge or gauge error.

Reading Trend Type

253 cfs 0 cfs/hr Volumentric Flow (CFS) 01h26m

3.69 ft 0.00 ft/hr Stage in Feet 01h26m



Data courtesy of USGS. Each station record is considered PROVISIONAL until the data are published. Data users are cautioned

to consider carefully the provisional nature of the information before using it for decisions that concern personal or public safety or the conduct of business that involves substantial monetary or operational consequences. Source Gauge's Page

Station Description

AW Gauge ID: 7222 Source: usgs 06017000 Station:

Enabled yes

HUC: 10020002 45.217977 Latitude: -112.655854

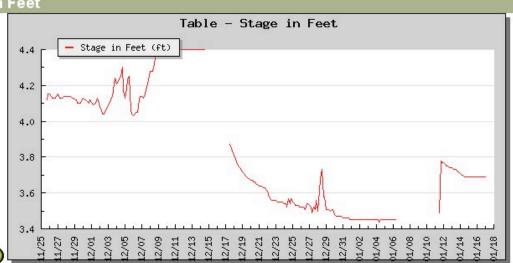


Information

Volumentric Flow (CFS) Stage in Feet Report - Reports of Related Gauges

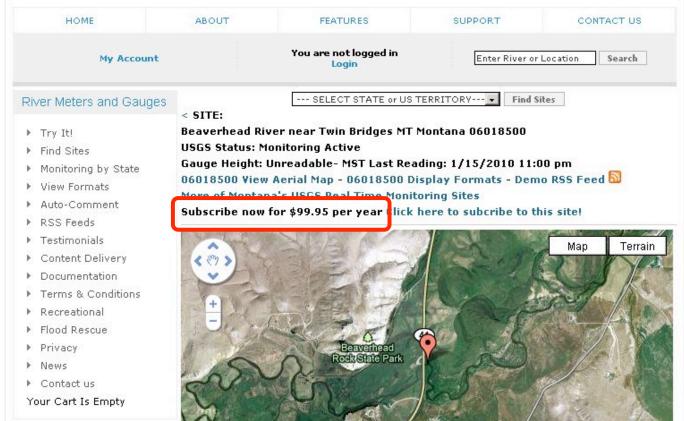
Stage in Feet

Disclaimer











Store

Mac

iPod + iTunes

iPhone

Downloads

Support

Q Search

All Downloads

All Categories

Aperture

Apple

Audio

Automator Actions

Business & Finance

Development Tools

Drivers

Email & Chat

Final Cut Studio

Games

Home & Learning

iCal Calendars

Icons, Screensavers, etc.

Imaging & 3D

Internet Utilities

iPod + iTunes

Math & Science

Networking & Security

Productivity Tools

Spotlight Plugins

System/Disk Utilities

UNIX & Open Source

Video

Middets

Top Apple Downloads

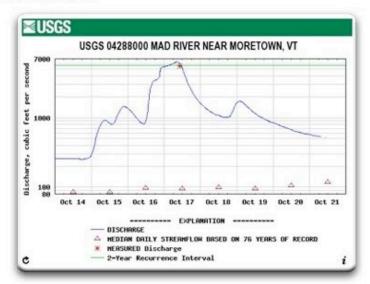
Top Downloads

Dashboard Widgets

Amazing widgets for your Mac OS X Dashboard.

Categories Just Added Top 50 Submit a Widget Feedback RSS

River Levels



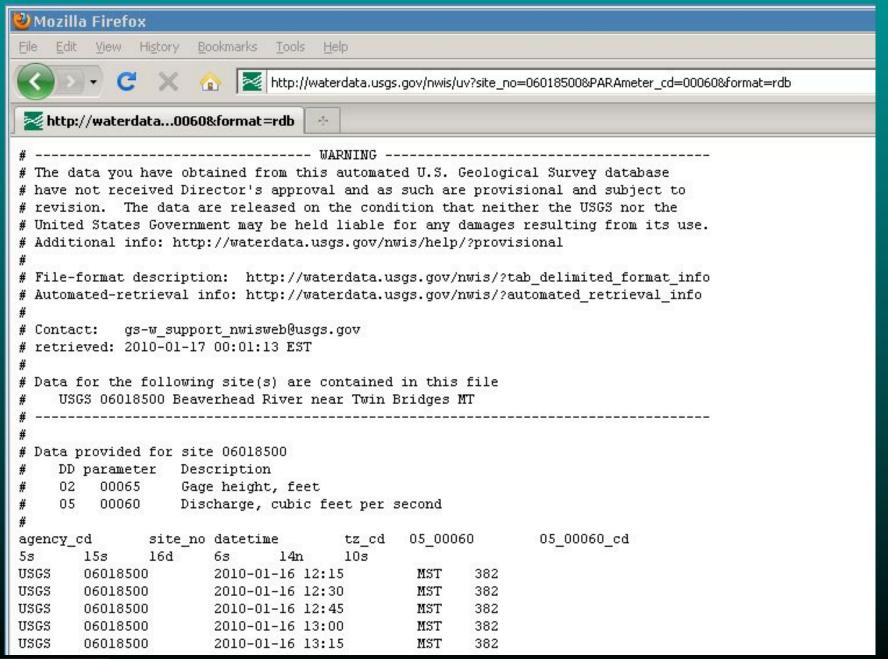
About River Levels

Provides an easy way to monitor the amount of water flowing in your favorite streams and rivers right from your Dashboard. The RiverLevels widget is of particular interest to whitewater kayakers and canoeists.

Once any United States Geological Survey (USGS) stream-gauge station is selected, it is automatically refreshed to always provide you with the latest graph of the water-level in either CFS or feet.









http://waterservices.usgs.gov/WOF/InstantaneousValues?

```
- < timeSeries Response xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.cuahsi.org/waterML/1.0/ http://waterservices.usgs.gov/
  +<queryInfo></queryInfo>
  - <timeSeries name="NWIS Time Series Instantaneous Values">
    - < sourceInfo xsi:type="SiteInfoType">
        <siteName>Beaverhead River near Twin Bridges MT</siteName>
        <siteCode agencyCode="USGS" siteID="64912" network="NWIS">06018500</siteCode>
      - <geoLocation>
        - <geogLocation xsi:type="LatLonPointType" srs="EPSG:4326">
             <latitude>45.38353465</latitude>
             <longitude>-112.4527863
          </geogLocation>
        </geoLocation>
      </sourceInfo>
    - <variable>
        <variableCode vocabulary="NWISUV">00060</variableCode>
        <variableName>Discharge</variableName>
        <variableDescription>Discharge, cubic feet per second</variableDescription>
        <dataType>Instantaneous</dataType>
        <units units Type="Flow" units Abbreviation="cfs"/>
        <NoDataValue>-999999</NoDataValue>
      </variable>
    - <values count="92">
        <value dateTime="2010-01-16T00:15:00.000-07:00" qualifiers="P">382</value>
        <value dateTime="2010-01-16T00:30:00.000-07:00" qualifiers="P">382</value>
        <value dateTime="2010-01-16T00:45:00.000-07:00" qualifiers="P">382</value>
        <value dateTime="2010-01-16T01:00:00.000-07:00" qualifiers="P">382</value>
```



Google" Custom Search Search HIS

Home

Messages from the Director

Using Data Publishing Data Developing New Components

Project

System

Research

Community

FAOs

Publications Links

Contacts Us

CUAHSI Home Other HIS Sites

The CUAHSI Hydrologic Information System (CUAHSI-HIS) provides web services, tools, standards and procedures that enhance access to more and better data for hydrologic analysis. Click on the links below to access the various tools directly, or follow the side menu to learn about the CUAHSI-HIS system in more detail, as well as the research being conducted to advance Hydrologic Information Science and serve the community interested in sharing hydrologic data.

Data and Tools

Data Discovery

HydroSeek • HIS Central DASH **CUAHSI Water Data Services**

Data Access

WaterML Web Services • HydroExcel HydroGET • HydroLink FetchWaterML • HydroObjects

Data Publication

HIS Server ODM Databases . ODM Tools Data Loader • Streaming Data Loader Master CV Registry • HydroTagger CUAHSI Water Data Services

What's New



Give HydroDesktop a Workout

A testing version of HydroDesktop, CUAHSI HIS' new map-based client application for discovery, access and analysis of hydrologic data is ready for your input. We are looking for members of the community to help us review it and provide feedback. We encourage you to go to the HydroDesktop website, download the software and give it a workout. Let us know your thoughts about it using our feedback page. For more information, see the HydroDesktop page on a this site.

EarthSky on HIS

Listen to this 90 second EarthSky interview with David Maidment on how HIS is helping experts access water information! [More Info]





Intro to HIS CD Movie



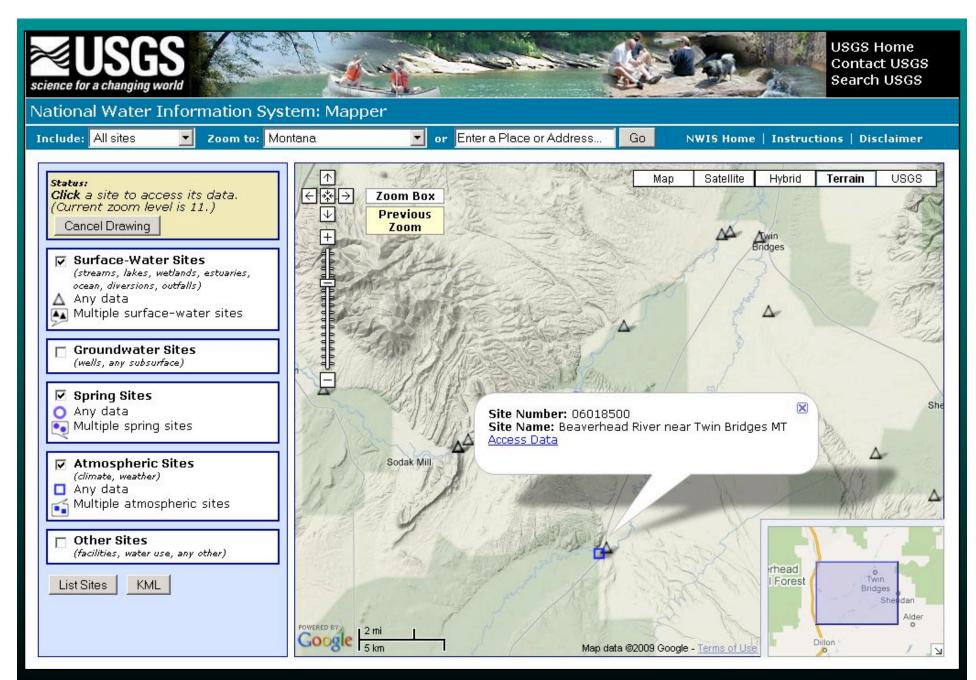
CUAHSI HIS 2009 Status Report Released

The CUAHSI HIS Team has produced a 2009 Status Report that details the expansions and updates to the HIS System that have occured since the Version 1.1 Overview Report was released on July 12, 2008. Let us know your thoughts about it using our feedback page.

CUAHSI Hydrologic Information System

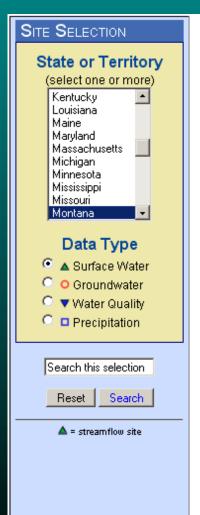
Presented by Tim Whiteaker







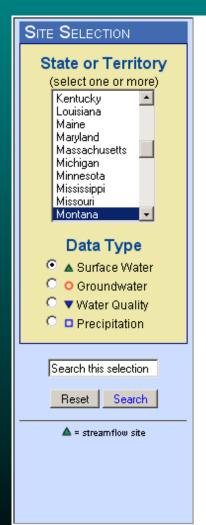
USGS WaterAlert: http://water.usgs.gov/wateralert/

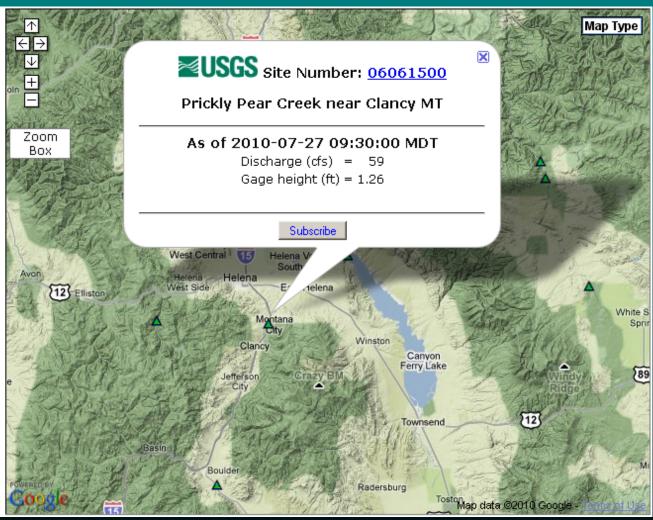






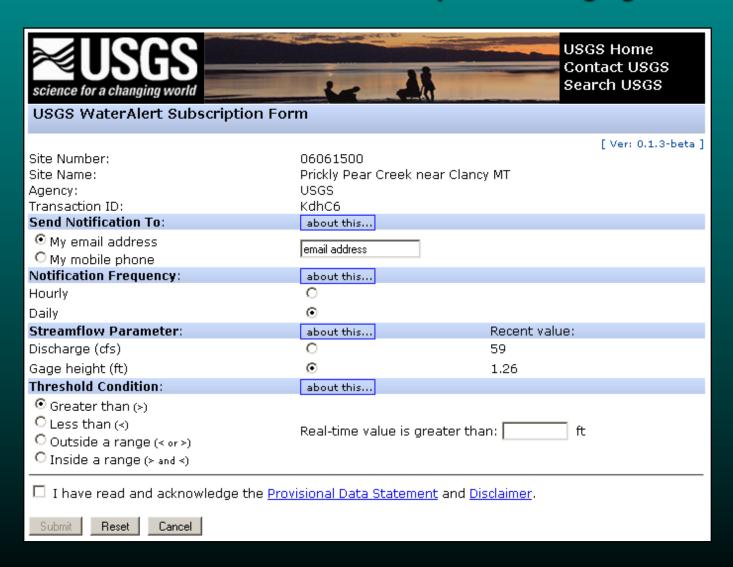
USGS WaterAlert: http://water.usgs.gov/wateralert/







USGS WaterAlert: http://water.usgs.gov/wateralert/







Questions?

http://waterdata.usgs.gov/

dbriar@usgs.gov



